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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Poliomyelitis	DATE DISTR.	21 December 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED
 Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The number of cases of poliomyelitis in Hungary showed a substantial increase in the first half of 1954 over the corresponding figures for the same period in 1952 and 1953. The totals were:

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1952, from 1 January - 30 June - 78, rising to 99 by 10 July 1952;
 1953, from 1 January - 30 June - 115, rising to 135 by 10 July 1953;
 1954, from 1 January - 30 June - 172, rising to 246 by 10 July 1954.

2. The number of cases rose earlier in the year than usual, the figures for April, May and June having been appreciably higher in 1954 than in former years. Most of these early cases were reported from the following locations: Town and area of Mosonmagyaróvár, counties of Győr-Sopron, Komárom, Fejér, Veszprém and Szabolcs-Szatmár; town and area of Kiszvárd. In 1953 the territories east of the Danube were relatively free; in the first half of 1954 they have provided most of the cases.
3. The youngest age groups seemed to be afflicted most. In the first half of 1952, the percentage of all cases in children under three years old was 49.7; in the first half of 1953, 60.3; in the first half of 1954, 70.8. In the first half of 1954, 24.6% of all cases occurred before the first birthday.
4. The virus department of the State Health Institute in Budapest is collecting excreta specimens and serum pairs (German: "Serienpaare") from poliomyelitis patients. From the former, attempts are made to isolate the poliomyelitis virus in human embryonic tissue cultures and the Cox-Sackie virus in new-born mice. The titration increase is tested in relation to the types of the poliomyelitis and Cox-Sackie viruses (German: "In den Serienpaaren wird die Titererhöhung gegenüber den Typen des Polio- und Cox-Sackie-virus geprüft").

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